



Thursday, February 15, 2007

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**Fire**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

**ITEM No 4**

**Subject** Adopt an ordinance to establish classifications and positions in the classified service of the Austin Fire Department eliminating positions, creating positions, repealing and repeal Ordinance No 20060911-005, and declaring an emergency

**Amount and Source of Funding** Funding in the amount of \$54,937 is available in the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Operating Budget of the Austin Fire Department. A fiscal note is not required.

**Additional Backup  
Material**

(click to open)

Ordinance

**For More Information** J J Adame, Fire Chief, 974-4100, Amy Singer, Chief Administrative Officer, 974-4120, Cathy Rodgers, HR Director, 974-2631

**Prior Council Action** Classification Ordinance No 20060911-005 adopted by Council on September 11, 2006

This ordinance repeals the classification ordinance adopted by Council on September 11, 2006. The number of Fire Department Civil Service Positions within three classifications are changed:

The classification ordinance changes are required to accomplish three goals: a) facilitate the staffing of the Spicewood Springs fire station to open March, 2007, b) add a Battalion Chief position to create a vacancy for the promotion of a Captain in accordance with the order of a Civil Service Hearing Examiner, and, c) increase the rank of Division Chief by one and decrease the number of Captain positions by one. The department currently has a Captain serving as Special Projects Officer. This office deals with projects requiring coordination and interaction with all ranks in the organization as well as other City departments and outside agencies. The Fire Chief believes this function is more appropriate for the Division Chief rank. This Division Chief will serve as a member of the executive team, which will provide opportunities for mentoring, training, and experience to prepare for promotional opportunities to executive level.

As a result of this action, staffing would be: Assistant Chief - 4, Division Chief - increases from 4 to 5, Battalion Chief - increases from 30 to 31, Captain - decreases from 70 to 69, Lieutenant - increases from 171 to 174, Specialist - increases from 190 to 193, Firefighter - decreases from 588 to 581.

Funding for the Spicewood Springs station opening classification changes were included in the FY2006-2007 Approved Budget for the Austin Fire Department.

Funding for the Captain position to Division Chief conversion will be absorbed in the FY2006-2007 Approved Budget for the Austin Fire Department in the amount of \$18,960. Funding for the Firefighter position to Battalion Chief conversion will be absorbed in the FY2006-2007 Approved Budget for the Austin Fire Department in the amount of \$35,977.

The Texas Government Code, Chapter 143 requires Council action to approve changes in the number of positions in the firefighter classifications.

**ORDINANCE NO.**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CLASSIFICATIONS AND POSITIONS AND PAY IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, ELIMINATING POSITIONS, ADDING POSITIONS, AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 20060911-005 RELATING TO FIRE DEPARTMENT CLASSIFICATIONS AND POSITIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1.** The council makes the following findings

- (A) The City adopted Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143 (*Municipal Civil Service*), which applies to members of the classified service in the Fire Department
- (B) Chapter 143 (*Municipal Civil Service*) provides that the city council shall establish the classifications for the Fire Department and the number of positions in each classification
- (C) The Fire Department recommends the elimination and creation of certain classified positions to improve the delivery of services and increase efficiency in the Fire Department

**PART 2.** The civil service classifications of the Fire Department and the number of positions in each classification are established as follows

(A) Assistant Chief	4
(B) Division Chief	5
(C) Battalion Chief	31
(D) Captain	69
(E) Lieutenant	174
(F) Fire Specialist	193
(G) Firefighter	581

**PART 3.** The number of positions in the classification of Division Chief in Part 2 of this ordinance is an increase of one from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance

**PART 4.** The number of positions in the classification of Battalion Chief in Part 2 of this ordinance is an increase of one from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance

**PART 5.** The number of positions in the classification of Captain in Part 2 of this ordinance is a decrease of one from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance

**PART 6.** The number of positions in the classification of Lieutenant in Part 2 of this ordinance is an increase of three from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance

**PART 7.** The number of positions in the classification of Fire Specialist in Part 2 of this ordinance is an increase of three from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance

**PART 8.** The number of positions in the classification of Firefighter in Part 2 of this ordinance is a decrease of seven from the number in existence immediately before the effective date of this ordinance

**PART 9.** The Base Salary Schedules attached to the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective on December 1, 2005 are adopted for each civil service classification

**PART 10.** Ordinance No 20060911-005 is repealed

**PART 11.** The Council finds that the need to timely adjust authorized staffing in the classified service of the Fire Department constitutes an emergency. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2007

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Will Wynn  
Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
David Allan Smith  
City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley A. Gentry  
City Clerk